A Small grouping of late 19th Century residential structures stand near the northern most Maryland crossing of the Octoraro Creek at New Bridge. The small community developed under the influence of the once active Sun Paper Mill along the east side of the Octoraro. A sturdy iron Pratt through-truss span (CE-896) replaced its predecessor in the late 19th Century under the direction Charles H. Latrobe. The commission and construction of the bridge were completed during the term of County Commissioners, William Potter, Wilson Pierson, and Elis Sentman. Local oral tradition links the crossings name of New Bridge with the completion of the new span. The J. S. Ray store and residence (CE-897) is a typical two story three bay frame house with a commercial bay attached to the west gable end. Other structures in the immediate area are modest two story two or three bay frame houses. (CE-898, 899)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY
FILE - 879

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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

__UNALTERED

X_ORIGINAL SITE

χ_GOOD __FAIR __RUINS __UNEXPOSED <u></u> ALTERED

__MOVED DATE___

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The J. S. Ray Store c. 1860-1877 was a partial store and residence. The mercantile use of the building has been lost but the structure does remain. The 24 story frame building faces south with the primary gable running east/west.

The main block is 5 bays across by one room deep. A single story shed roof porch extends across the main facade and is closed-in on the eastern end. The house rests on an uncoursed stone foundation and is sheathed with composition tile shingles over weatherboards. The roof is of medium slope with a composition tile sheathing.

The main facade is a series of doors and single panel sash windows with plain trim. The windows on the second floor are 6/6/ sash. The two doors are located in the second and fourth bays from the eastern end.

There is a boxed cornice across the front of the house.

The gable ends have a couple 6/6 sash and attic lights. Stuccoed stove flues rise out of each gable end.

SPECIFIC DATES		BUILDER/ARCHITECT		The second secon	
1900·	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRYINVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)	
<u>7</u> _1800-1899	Z_COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

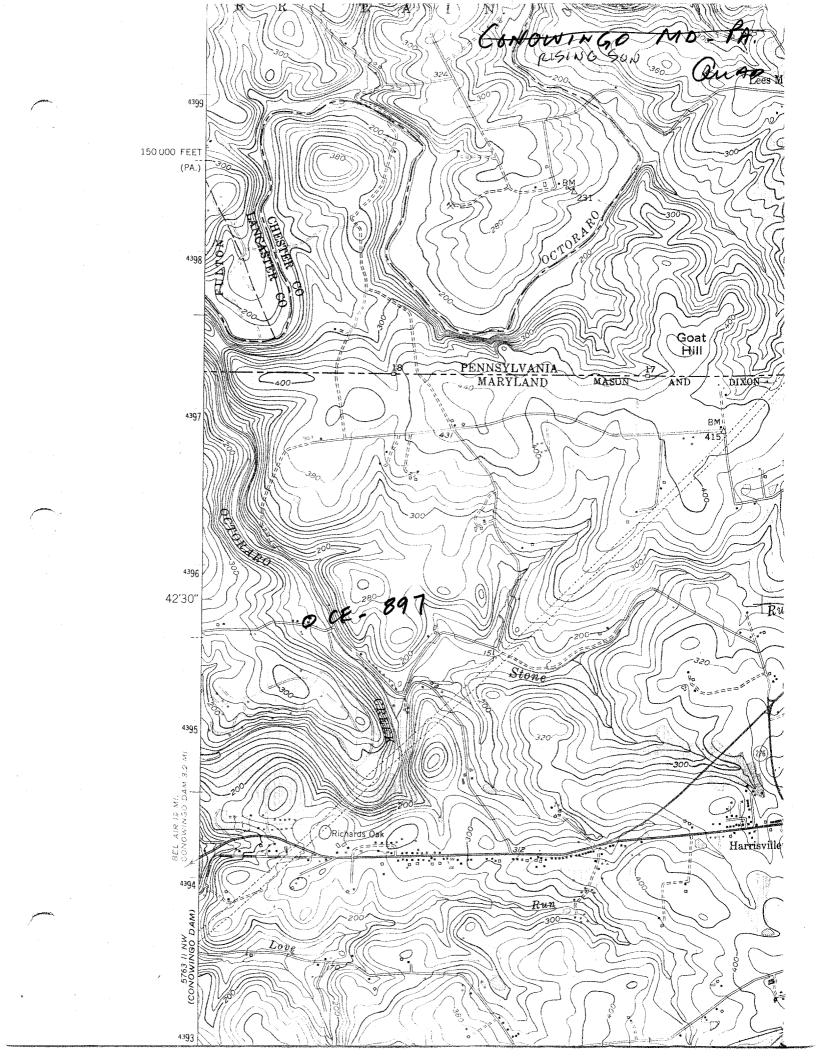
According to a local resident the store operated until the early 20th century by Herb Reynolds. The area was supposedly a popular and secluded place for boot-leg whiskey and it was known to have been hidden in the store. The building itself is a typical mid to late 19th century house type. The modification of the form for a business was a common practice and not unusual, especially in a rural area such as New Bridge. It still retains its basic 19th century form and a few details.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF	NECESSARY	
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA		
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11 FORM PREPARED BY		
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Paul B. Touart Historic Sites	Similar	
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STREET & NUMBER		TELEPHONE
Cecil County Courthouse		398-7568
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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438





J. S. RAY STORE

NEW BRIDGE - CONOWINCO, NO.

SOUTH ELEVATION

178

CE - 897